West Virginia Writers' Project

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Rev. Q. Arbogast, and Rev. H. Blackhurst

I did not know until a few days ago that I was going to have to get these churches so this is not as complete as it might have been.

FEB 13 1941

Cass Methodist Churches

The Methodist class of the M. E. Church South was organized in 1903 by the Rev. John McNeil of the Greenbank circuit. I do not have the date when the M. E. class was organized, but it was soon after the above date. No church was built in Cass until in 1920 when the Presbyterians built theirs. For four years this church was used by the Methodists, too. Finally some of the Presbyterians objected to the Methodists using the church, and decided to charge them $15. per Sunday or $25. for two Sundays per month. They soon decided that they could not afford to pay this amount, and that it would be best to build a church of their own.

The M. E. members withdrew first and in 1924 built The First Methodist Church on the east side of the river. The deed for the lot was given on February 20, 1924 by Dr. Allen Burner and Mabel Burner his wife, parties of the first part, and J. P. Smith, H. O. Blackherst, and A. G. Hardbarger, trustees of the First Methodist church of Cass. For $400. cash lots 6 and 7 in block 1. "Now therefore this deed witnesseth, the trustees of said church herein mentioned and their sucessors in office shall at no time prohibit the doctrines of Sanctification as taught by John and Charles Wesley, the founders of Methodistism."

A little later in that same year the M. E. South members also withdrew from the church. and the deed for the lots were given by William V. Hiner and Grace C. Hiner his wife, to C. P. Gillispie, J. W. Bible, Roy Cook, Burk McCarty, J. Hobbs Rose, H. H. Brown, Markwood Gum, L. S. Cochran and William Siple, trustees. for the sum of $1,800. a lot or parcel of land in Cass

adjoining the land of the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co. for the use of the M. E. Church, South.

In 1939 these two churches were united, and the M. E. South church is used for preaching purposes. The M. E. church is still used for Sunday school.

There are 155 members of this united church.

The Stewards are C. P. Gillispie, J. W. Bible, Roy Cook, Burk McCarty, and Rev. H. O. Blackherst. E. R. Loudermilk is the Supt. and the teachers are J. W. Jack, Mrs. Myrl Ervin, Mrs. C. P. Gillispie, C. P. Gillispie, Mrs J. H. Rose, Warren Shiflett, and Audre McPherson. Burk McCarty is the Sec. and Treas.

Mrs. Charles Sheets is the Pres. of the Womens Society of Christain Service.